



WHY NATIVE PLANTS?

Native plants are adapted to the local climate and soil conditions where they naturally occur. These important plant species provide nectar, pollen, and seeds that serve as food for native butterflies, insects, birds and other animals. Native plants are part of an ecosystem that developed together over millions of years. Native plants have formed mutualistic relationships with other native organisms such as bacteria, fungi, higher plants, and wildlife over thousands of years, and therefore offer the most sustainable habitat. As development and habitat destruction accelerate, there are increasing pressures on wildlife populations. When native plants disappear, the insects disappear, impoverishing the food source for birds and other animals.

Some Useful Resources:

[Kill Your Lawn Before it Kills You](#): While the lawn may be a powerful symbol of American postwar prosperity, it's also an ecological dead zone that's sucking the nation's aquifers dry.

[How to Save the Planet. Starting with Your Yard](#) (podcast)

[Wild4WW FB group](#)

[Homegrown National Park](#): Native plant expert Dough Tallamy (author, Bringing Nature Home, Nature's Best Hope) call to action to individual homeowners, property owners, land managers, farmers, and anyone with some soil to plant in...to plant native plants and removing most invasive plants.

"Our National Parks, no matter how grand in scale are too small and separated from one another to preserve species to the levels needed. Thus, the concept for Homegrown National Park, a bottom-up call-to-action to restore habitat where we live and work, and to a lesser extent where we farm and graze, extending national parks to our yards and communities."

[New Jersey Native Plant Society](#)

[Monarch Conservation, Xerces Society](#)

[Audubon Native Plants Database](#)

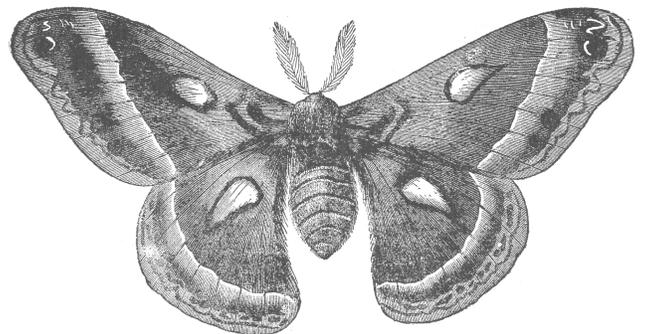
[National Wildlife Federation Native Plant Finder](#)

[SEEK by iNaturalist](#)

[The Life and Death of the American Lawn](#)

[Bowman's Hill Wildflower Preserve](#)

[D&R Greenway Native Plant Nursery](#)



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